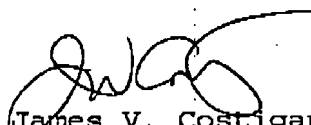


REMARKS

The applicant elects Group 1, claims 1-17 and 19-20 with traverse. The provisions of 35 U.S.C. §1.121 state that restriction may be required when there are independent and distinct inventions. In the present case, no reason has been set forth which shows that the subject matter of claims 1-17 and 19-20 and the subject matter of claim 18 are independent and distinct inventions. For this reason, it is requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



James V. Costigan
Registration No. 25,669

Hedman & Costigan, P.C.
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 302-8989